

VZCZCXRO3931
PP RUEHDE RUEHDIR
DE RUEHMK #0163/01 0731336
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 131336Z MAR 08
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7672
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEVAKS/COMUSNAVCENT PRIORITY
RHMFISS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MANAMA 000163

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/13/2018

TAGS: [PGOV PHUM ASEC BA](#)

SUBJECT: ARSON ATTACK COMPLICATES PARLIAMENTARY STANDOFF

REF: A. MANAMA 40

[1B](#). 06 MANAMA 1728

Classified By: Ambassador Adam Ereli for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 1.(C) Summary: Two arson attacks, one against the property of a prominent Al-Khalifa family member, and a street skirmish in a Shi'a village dr
- 2.(C) Shortly after midnight on March 8 a group of 30 masked individuals used Molotov cocktails to set fire to buildings on a farm owned by Abc
- 3.(U) Also on March 8, Shi'a youth in Jid Hafs blocked streets with burning tires, sofas, and dumpsters. They demanded the release of defendant
- 4.(C) A second case of arson on the night of March 8 targeted a Salafist MP. Press reports indicated that unknown persons used gasoline to set
- 5.(U) The Prime Minister met with Al-Wifaq leadership and other government officials on March 9 and condemned the violent attacks on property a
- 6.(C) Comment: It is unclear whether the arson attacks represent a change in tactics by Shi'a agitators who have heretofore focused on street v
- 7.(C) Comment continued: Despite unequivocal condemnation of the incidents by Al-Wifaq, the attack on Abdulaziz bin MANAMA 00000163 002 OF 002